

CPSO provides holiday safety tips

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Posted by Breck Scott

As people rush to complete their last-minute preparations, Caddo Sheriff Henry Whitehorn Sr. emphasizes the importance of staying focused on personal safety for a safe and happy holiday season.

"Unfortunately, the safety measures we typically practice can be overlooked as the excitement of the season causes us to let our guard down," Whitehorn stated.

To help ensure you don't become a victim this holiday season, the Caddo Sheriff's Office offers the following simple tips:

- Be alert and aware of your surroundings at all times. Criminals often target individuals who are distracted.
- Whether you are driving, walking, or using public transportation, plan your trip in advance. Know the most direct and safest route to your destination.
- Travel on populated, well-lit streets. If possible, travel with a friend.
- When driving, keep your doors locked and windows closed. Ensure your gas tank is full and your vehicle is in good working order to avoid breakdowns.
- Avoid leaving valuables in your car. Whenever possible, place items out of sight in your vehicle's trunk. Never leave packages in the passenger compartment of your car.
- Carry only the cash or the number of credit cards necessary for your purchases.
- When dining at a restaurant, do not leave your handbag on the back of your chair or on the floor. If you are carrying a wallet, keep it in the breast pocket of your jacket or in a side pants pocket, as the rear pants pocket is the easiest target for pickpockets.
- Don't wait until you reach your front door to look for your keys; have them ready in your hand.
- Lock your front door immediately upon entering your home.
- If you have elderly family members or neighbors, please check in on them.
- Remind children to be cautious of strangers, including those online.
- Be aware of con artists who use various tactics to deceive you and steal your belongings. Be cautious about telephone and email solicitations that ask for personal information, such as account details, passwords, or your Social Security number.
- Avoid illegal vendors selling goods on the street. Remember, "If it seems too good to be true, it probably is."

From the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, wishing you a great holiday season!

Attachments

